

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MONROV 07385 261531Z

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4197

USDOC WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 7385

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BDIS, LI

SUBJECT: A.S. INDUSTRIES VS. MAMADU DARAMEY

REF: (A) STATE 279972; (B) MONROVIA A-91, SEPTEMBER 23, 1974

1. IN VIEW OF SENSITIVITY OF INVOLVEMENT OF PRESIDENT'S SON,
A. B. TOLBERT, IN POSSIBLE IRREGULAR DIAMOND TRANSACTION, EMBASSY
PLANS TAKE NO RPT NO ACTION UNTIL WE RECEIVE POUCHED MATERIAL
(PARA 1, REF A). IN INTERIM EMBASSY CAN ONLY SUGGEST FIRM RETAIN
LOCAL ATTORNEY TO ATTEMPT SETTLE CASE. EMBASSY HAS NO INFORMATION
ON DARAMEH OR OTHER NAMES MENTIONED IN REF A.

2. COMMENT: WHILE \$15,000 FEE FOR EXPORT LICENSE APPEARS WITHIN
BALLPART OF TRANSACTIONS THIS SORT, EMBASSY PUZZLED BY \$10,000
QUOTE LEGAL FEE UNQUOTE PAID TOLBERT. IN VIEW OF TOLBERT'S ERRATIC
BEHAVIOR IN PAST AND SOMEWHAT QUESTIONABLE REPUTATION (SEE REF B),
FEE PAID TOLBERT SUGGESTS HIS INVOLVEMENT MAY BE MORE THAN AS MERE
LEGAL ADVISER AND TRANSACTION LESS THAN STRAIGHTFORWARD BUSINESS
DEAL. SUGGEST THAT WASHINGTON AGENCIES PROCEED WITH EXTREME
CAUTION IN HANDLING COMPLAINT UNTIL MORE INFORMATION IS
DEVELOPED. END COMMENT.

3. WILL ADVISE.
MANFULL

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NNN

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